



## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

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<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/US00/04286 <b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 18 February 2000 (18.02.2000) <b>(30) Priority Data:</b> 09/253,819 19 February 1999 (19.02.1999) US <b>(60) Parent Application or Grant</b> CORVIS CORPORATION [/]; (). GRUBB, Stephen, G. [/]; () ZANONI, Raymond [/]; (). STEPHENS, Thomas, D. [/]; (). BOGGAVARAPU, Deepak [/]; (). JIN, Ruxiang [/]; (). ANTONE, Michael, C. ; ().		<b>Published</b>
<b>(54) Title: OPTICAL TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS INCLUDING SIGNAL VARYING DEVICES AND METHODS</b> <b>(54) Titre: SYSTEMES DE TRANSMISSION OPTIQUES COMPRENANT DES DISPOSITIFS A VARIATION DE SIGNAL ET PROCEDES</b>		
<b>(57) Abstract</b> <p>Optical systems of the present invention include a plurality of optical processing nodes in optical communication via a plurality of signal varying devices. A first signal varying device includes an optical fiber configured to produce Raman scattering/gain in a signal wavelength range and a first signal variation profile. A first pump source is configured provides sufficient pump energy in a plurality of first pump wavelengths to stimulate Raman scattering/gain in the optical fiber within the signal wavelength range. A second signal varying device is provided having a second signal variation profile to produce a cumulative signal variation profile that differs from the first and second signal variation profiles.</p>		
<b>(57) Abrégé</b> <p>Les systèmes optiques de la présente invention comprennent une pluralité de noeuds de traitement optiques dans une communication optique via une pluralité de dispositifs à variation de signal. Un premier dispositif à variation de signal comprend une fibre optique configurée de façon à produire un(e) gain/diffusion Raman dans une plage de longueur d'onde du signal et un premier profil de variation du signal. Une première source de pompage est configurée de façon à fournir une énergie de pompage suffisante dans une pluralité de premières longueurs d'ondes de pompage afin de stimuler un(e) gain/diffusion Raman dans la fibre optique, dans la plage de longueur d'onde du signal. Un second dispositif à variation de signal possède un second profil de variation de signal destiné à produire un profil de variation de signal de cumul différent des premier et second profils de variation de signal.</p>		

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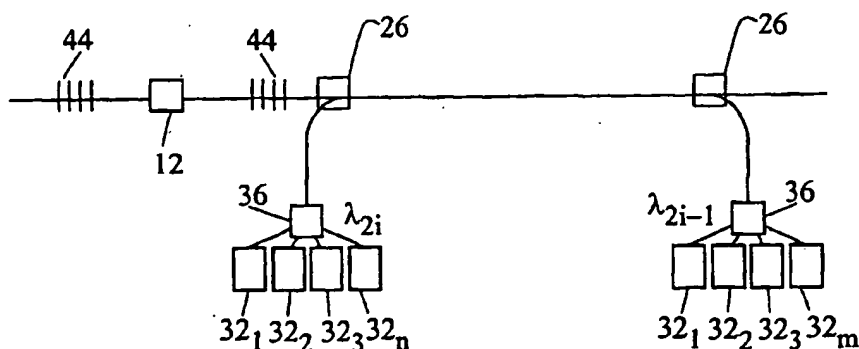
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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/04286 (22) International Filing Date: 18 February 2000 (18.02.00) (30) Priority Data: 09/253,819 19 February 1999 (19.02.99) US (71) Applicant: CORVIS CORPORATION [US/US]; Intellectual Property Department, 7015 Albert Einstein Drive, Columbia, MD 21046-9400 (US). (72) Inventors: GRUBB, Stephen, G.; Corvis Corporation, 7015 Albert Einstein Drive, Columbia, MD 21046-9400 (US). ZANONI, Raymond; Corvis Corporation, 7015 Albert Einstein Drive, Columbia, MD 21046-9400 (US). STEPHENS, Thomas, D.; Corvis Corporation, 7015 Albert Einstein Drive, Columbia, MD 21046-9400 (US). BOGGAVARAPU, Deepak; Corvis Corporation, 7015 Albert Einstein Drive, Columbia, MD 21046-9400 (US). JIN, Ruxiang; Corvis Corporation, 7015 Albert Einstein Drive, Columbia, MD 21046-9400 (US). (74) Agent: ANTONE, Michael, C.; Corvis Corporation, 7015 Albert Einstein Drive, Columbia, MD 21046-9400 (US).		(81) Designated States: BR, CA, CN, JP, MX, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).  Published <i>Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.</i>

(54) Title: OPTICAL TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS INCLUDING SIGNAL VARYING DEVICES AND METHODS



(57) Abstract

Optical systems of the present invention include a plurality of optical processing nodes in optical communication via a plurality of signal varying devices. A first signal varying device includes an optical fiber configured to produce Raman scattering/gain in a signal wavelength range and a first signal variation profile. A first pump source is configured provides sufficient pump energy in a plurality of first pump wavelengths to stimulate Raman scattering/gain in the optical fiber within the signal wavelength range. A second signal varying device is provided having a second signal variation profile to produce a cumulative signal variation profile that differs from the first and second signal variation profiles.

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## Description

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5 OPTICAL TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS INCLUDING SIGNAL VARYING  
DEVICES AND METHODS

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

10 This application is a continuation in part of commonly  
5 assigned U.S. Serial No. 09/119,556 filed July 21, 1998  
entitled "Optical Signal Varying Devices", which is  
incorporated herein by reference.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

15 The present invention is directed generally to optical  
10 signal varying devices that provide for controllably  
varying optical signal characteristics. More particularly,  
20 the invention relates to optical transmission including  
optical amplifiers and attenuators that have controllable  
gain, loss and transparent intensity variation profiles for  
15 use in optical communication systems.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

25 The continued development of digital technology has  
provided electronic access to vast amounts of information.  
The increased access to information has fueled an  
30 20 increasing desire to quickly obtain and process the  
information. This desire has, in turn, driven demand for  
faster and higher capacity electronic information  
processing equipment (computers) and transmission networks  
35 and systems linking the processing equipment (telephone  
25 lines, cable television (CATV) systems, local, wide and  
metropolitan area networks (LAN, WAN, and MAN)).

40 In response to this demand, telecommunications  
companies have turned to optical communication systems to  
provide substantially larger information bandwidth  
30 30 transmission capacities than traditional electrical  
communication systems. Early optical transmission systems,  
45 known as space division multiplex (SDM) systems,  
transmitted one information signal using a single  
wavelength in separate waveguides, i.e. fiber optic strand.  
35 50 Time division multiplexing (TDM) multiple information  
signals onto a single wavelength in a known sequence that

5 can be separated upon receipt has further increased the transmission capacity of optical systems.

10 The continued growth in traditional communications systems and the emergence of the Internet as a means for accessing data has further accelerated the demand for higher capacity communications networks. Telecommunications companies have looked to wavelength division multiplexing (WDM) to further increase the capacity of their existing systems.

15 In WDM transmission systems, pluralities of distinct TDM or SDM information signals are carried using electromagnetic waves having different wavelengths in the optical spectrum, i.e., far-UV to far-infrared. The pluralities of information carrying wavelengths are combined into a multiple wavelength optical signal, which is transmitted in a single waveguide. In this manner, WDM systems can increase the transmission capacity of existing SDM/TDM systems by a factor equal to the number of wavelengths used in the WDM system.

20 Optical WDM systems were not initially deployed, in part, because of the high cost of electrical signal regeneration/amplification equipment required to compensate for signal attenuation for each optical wavelength throughout the system. However, the development of the erbium doped fiber optical amplifier (EDFA) eliminated the need for, and the associated costs of, electrical signal regeneration/amplification equipment to compensate for signal attenuation in many systems. Thus, WDM systems became a cost effective means to increase optical network capacity.

25 Erbium doped fiber amplifiers ("EDFAs") can theoretically be used to amplify signals in an amplification wavelength range spanning from approximately 1500 nm and 1600 nm. However, EDFAs do not equally amplify each optical signal wavelength within the range. The differences in amplification can result in attenuation of some signals and/or signal loss or distortion because of highly amplified noise. Thus, the performance of EDFAs in

5 a transmission system varies depending upon the number of wavelengths and the wavelengths used in the system.

Judicious selection of the wavelengths and amplifier powers used in a system can minimize EDFA variations (gain non-uniformities). For example, many WDM systems currently restrict the wavelengths used in the system to between 1540 nm and 1560 nm, a range in which EDFAs comparably amplify optical signals. As might be expected, restricting system designs to only those wavelengths that are comparably amplified by EDFAs severely limits the number of wavelengths and the information transmission capacity of WDM systems.

20 The number of wavelengths in the system can be increased to some extent, if only a small number of amplifiers are used in the system. A broader range of wavelengths can be used with a less stringent requirement for uniform amplification, because cumulative amplifier variations will generally not swamp out lowly amplified signals over a small number of amplifiers.

25 In addition to the wavelength dependence, EDFA performance is also a function of the amplification power supplied to the EDFA. Thus, EDFAs generally must be operated with a limited power range to minimize amplification variations in the system. The amplifier power limitations, in turn, increase the number of amplifiers in a system by limiting the allowable distance between EDFAs, i.e., the span length.

30 In discussing the signal intensity variation of EDFAs and other devices, the uniformity of gain or loss profiles over a wavelength range is generally referred to as the flatness of the profile. A perfectly flat profile is a gain, loss, or transparency profile that has a constant value over the wavelength range of interest.

35 WDM system constraints imposed by EDFA wavelength variations have focused attention on providing EDFA configurations that compensate for the variations and provide more uniform gain for a larger band of wavelengths and over a greater power range. Various EDFA

5 configurations have been proposed to minimize amplifier  
gain variations. For example, see U.S. Patent Nos.  
5,406,766, 5,541,766, 5,557,442, 5,636,301, and 5,696,615;  
Sugaya et al., Optical Amplifiers and Their Applications,  
10 5 Technical Digest OSA 1995 v. 18, pp. 158-161/FC3-1;  
Jacobovitz-Veselka et al., Optical Amplifiers and Their  
Applications, Technical Digest OSA 1995 v. 18, pp. 162-  
165/FC3-1;; Park et al., Electronics Letters, March 5,  
15 1998, Vol. 34, No. 5, Online No. 19980346; and, Dung et  
10 al., Electronics Letters, 19 March 1998, v. 34, n. 6,  
Online No. 19980446.

Other amplifier configurations have used EDFAs in  
20 combination with a Raman amplifier to statically vary the  
gain profile of an EDFA. For example, see Masuda et al.,  
15 OSA 1997, pp. 40-3/MC3-1, Masuda et al., Electronics  
Letters, v34, n13, Online No. 19980935 (June 25, 1998), and  
25 U.S. Patent No. 5,083,874 issued to Aida et al. It has  
also been proposed to eliminate EDFAs and use amplifier  
configurations that employ only Raman amplifiers. However,  
20 the all-Raman configurations to date have not greatly  
improved the amplifiers gain flatness profile and may still  
30 require gain equalization to flatten the gain profile as  
discussed by Rottwitt et al., "A 92 nm Bandwidth Raman  
Amplifier", OFC '98, p. 72/CAT-1.

25 The above referenced gain flattened configurations are  
generally statically configured to have a wavelength range  
defined by a 3 dB variation (~ a factor of 2) in the gain  
profile and having a  $\pm 1$  dB variation between wavelengths.  
The gain flattened amplifiers provide some improvement over  
40 30 conventional EDFAs in the number of amplifiers, amplifier  
power ranges, and span lengths before the signal must be  
regenerated. The gain flattened optical amplifiers  
45 nonetheless introduce excess amplifier noise and gain  
nonuniformities that limit the number of optical amplifiers  
35 that can be used in a WDM system prior to signal  
regeneration.

Gain flattening in optical amplifier configurations is  
50 generally performed using filters and/or attenuators to



5 decrease the signal intensity of the wavelengths to a  
specified value. For example, in many embodiments, the  
optical signals are amplified to an intensity higher than  
the amplifier output value and the filters and attenuators  
10 5 are used to flatten the gain profile by decreasing the  
optical signal intensity. These methods tend to increase  
the noise in the signal with a corresponding decrease in  
the output power of the device.

15 Optical filters and attenuators are often included as  
10 separate optical devices in the system, but may also be  
all-fiber devices, such as Bragg grating filters and all-  
fiber attenuators, included in the transmission fiber. For  
example, see U.S. Patent Nos. 4,728,170, 5,095,519,  
20 5,633,974, 5,651,085, and 5,694,512. The filters and  
15 attenuators can be variable or fixed depending upon the  
configuration. The amplifier, filters, and attenuators are  
statically configured to flatten the gain profile.

25 As the demand for transmission capacity continues to  
grow, there is an increasing need for systems that span  
20 longer distances and provide a greater number of  
information carrying wavelengths/channels. However, it has  
30 proven difficult to balance the non-linear gain of EDFA  
configurations with selective wavelength filtering and  
attenuation to provide gain flattened amplifier  
25 configurations that meet this need.

35 Accordingly, there is a need for optical amplifiers  
and attenuator particularly, and signal varying devices  
generally, that provide increased control over the spectral  
intensity profile of optical signal in the optical systems.  
40 30 The improved signal varying devices will provide for higher  
capacity, more versatile, longer distance communication  
systems.

## BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

5 The apparatuses and methods of the present invention  
address the above difficulties with prior art optical  
devices and systems. An optical system of the present  
10 5 invention includes a plurality of optical processing nodes  
in optical communication via at least one signal varying  
device. The signal varying devices includes an optical  
fiber suitable for facilitating Raman scattering/gain in a  
15 signal wavelength range and a pump energy source for  
10 providing pump energy in a plurality of pump wavelengths.  
The pump source provides sufficient pump energy in each  
pump wavelength to stimulate Raman scattering/gain in the  
20 optical fiber within the signal wavelength range.

The signal varying device can be embodied as a  
15 distributed device that employs a portion or all of an  
optical transmission fiber extending between two optical  
nodes, such as between an optical transmitter and an  
25 optical receiver. The signal varying device can also be  
embodied as a lumped or concentrated device that is placed  
20 in the optical transmission fiber at discrete locations  
between the optical nodes.

The pump wavelengths are selected such that the  
combined Raman gain resulting from the pump energy supplied  
by each pump wavelength produces a desired signal variation  
35 25 profile in the signal wavelength range. In addition, the  
pump energy supplied by at least one of the pump  
wavelengths can be dynamically varied to produce a  
controlled signal intensity variation profile over the  
40 signal wavelength range in the optical fiber. In an  
30 embodiment, four pump wavelengths spaced in 10-30 nm  
intervals can be used to provide intensity gain and  
flatness control to over 30 nm to within  $\pm 0.2$  dB.

45 Also in an embodiment, erbium doped fiber is included  
in the signal varying device to provide a multiple stage  
35 signal varying device. The erbium doped fiber and the  
multiple wavelength controlled Raman portion of the signal

5           varying device can be operated in conjunction to impart a  
desired intensity profile to the optical signal.

10           The design and length of the optical fiber used in  
conjunction with the pump source can be tailored to provide  
5 flexibility in operation of the system. For example, a  
concentrated, or lumped, high gain signal varying device  
can be provided using a small core fiber, such as  
dispersion compensated or dispersion shifted fiber. The  
15 lumped device further provides for a greater range over  
which the signal varying device can be used as an  
attenuator because of its higher localized loss.

20           Multistage concentrated and/or distributed Raman  
signal varying devices can also be employed to further  
tailor the profile using either separate or common pump  
15 sources. For example, a first concentrated Raman stage can  
employ small core fiber to provide for efficient Raman  
amplification of the signal wavelengths. A second  
25 concentrated Raman stage can employ a larger core fiber to  
further amplify the signal power, while lessening the  
extent of non-linear interactions amongst the signal  
20 wavelengths that may occur in a single stage with smaller  
core fibers. The second concentrated Raman stage can also  
employ fiber having low loss in the 1400-1520 nm range to  
allow for more efficient Raman pumping of the multiple  
30 stages using a common source. In addition, the first and  
second Raman stages can use fibers that have different  
chromatic dispersion characteristics to further reduce the  
extent of non-linear interaction between the signal  
35 wavelengths.

40           Distributed signal varying devices can be provided by  
employing the optical transmission fiber spanning between  
the optical nodes to control the signal variation profile  
occurring in the transmission fiber. Also, different  
45 optical fiber types, including doped fibers, can be used in  
various portions to replace existing transmission fiber to  
35 provide for different distributed signal varying profiles.  
The concentrated and distributed Raman signal varying  
50 devices can be used alone or in combination to statically

5 or dynamically impart desired signal varying profile characteristics to the system.

10 In an embodiment, a distributed Raman amplifier can be employed with one or more first pump sources propagating pump energy in the transmission fiber to amplify counter-propagating signal wavelengths to provide a first signal varying profile. A concentrated Raman signal varying device can be placed in series with the distributed Raman amplifier employing one or more second pump sources to 15 provide a second signal varying profile. The first and second signal varying profiles acting to produce a desired overall signal varying profile. Additionally, an EDFA can be employed to contribute a third signal varying profile to the overall signal varying profile.

20 A distributed Raman amplifier can also be used to provide pump energy to one or more remotely located concentrated or distributed Raman amplifiers and/or doped amplifying fibers. For example, the pump sources can be selected to produce a first signal varying profile in the distributed Raman amplifier and a second signal varying profile in the remotely located erbium doped fiber. The pump power and/or the wavelength of the pump energy sources can be varied to control to individual and overall signal varying profiles. Pump energy can also be supplied to 25 remotely located signal varying devices using one or more separate fibers. Such fibers can be pure SiO<sub>2</sub> to minimize loss and nonlinear conversion of the pump light.

30 Additional gain and gain profile control in Raman amplifier stages can be produced by including one or more pumps at lower Raman wavelengths that serve to provide additional pump energy to the higher Raman pump wavelengths. The pump source can employ numerous configurations to decrease the extent of interference, i.e., cross-talk, that occurs between the Raman pump 35 wavelengths, as well as the signal wavelength.

Thus, the devices and methods of the present invention provide for control of the signal intensity over a range of wavelengths in optical transmission systems. Accordingly,

5 the present invention addresses the aforementioned problems  
and provides signal varying devices, methods, and optical  
systems that provide increased control over optical signal  
characteristics in the system. These advantages and others  
10 5 will become apparent from the following detailed  
description.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

15 Embodiments of the present invention will now be  
described, by way of example only, with reference to the  
10 accompanying Figures wherein like members bear like  
reference numerals and wherein:

20 Figs. 1-2 shows optical communication systems of the  
present invention;

15 Figs. 3-5 show signal varying devices of the present  
invention;

25 Figs. 6-7 show remote pumping embodiments of the  
present invention;

30 Fig. 8 shows exemplary overall, distributed Raman, and  
remote erbium gain profiles using remote pumping  
embodiments of the present invention;

35 Figs. 9-10 show alternative pump combining  
configurations of the present invention;

40 Figs. 11(a&b) show (a) Raman gain profiles over a 30  
nm range as a function of gain and (b) various Raman gain  
profiles; and,

45 Figs. 12-13 show Raman gain profiles over 35 and 100  
nm, respectively, based on a summation of experimental data  
using single pump wavelength signal varying devices.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

50 The optical systems 10 of the present invention will  
be described generally with reference to the drawings for  
the purpose of illustrating present embodiments only and  
not for purposes of limiting the same.

55 Fig. 1 shows an optical system 10 including a signal  
varying device 12 optically connecting two optical  
processing nodes 14 to form an optical link 15. As shown

5 in Fig. 2, the optical processing nodes 14 generally  
include at least one transmitter 16 for transmitting  
optical signals in at least one information carrying  
wavelength, or channel, or at least one optical signal  
10 5 receiver 18 for receiving the optical signals.

As is known in the art, the transmitter 16 includes at  
least one optical source or emitter, such as lasers,  
incoherent sources, or other sources to provide one or more  
15 optical carriers at fixed or tunable wavelengths. The  
10 information to be transmitted in the system 10 can be used  
to directly modulate the source or externally modulate the  
optical carrier, or can be upconverted onto an optical  
wavelength other than the optical carrier wavelength.

Likewise, the receiver 18 can employ direct or  
15 indirect, e.g. coherent, detection equipment, such as  
photodiodes and wavelength selective devices as are known  
25 in the art, to receive and perform an opto-electronic  
conversion of the signal. Similarly, the optical receiver  
18 can detect a fixed or tunable wavelength depending upon  
20 the requirements of the system 10. The optical processing  
nodes 14 may further include add and/or drop ports 20,  
30 switches 22, signal distributors 24 and combiners 26, or  
other signal processing devices as are further known in the  
art.

25 The optical system 10 may include a plurality of  
35 optical links 15 interconnected via the optical processing  
nodes 14 and/or signal varying devices 12. The optical  
processing nodes 14 can serve as terminals in the optical  
system 10 or may be disposed intermediately along optical  
40 30 transmission fiber 28 interconnecting the nodes 14 and  
devices 12.

As shown in Fig. 2, the signal varying device 12  
includes a Raman gain section of transmission fiber 30 in  
45 optical communication with the processing nodes 14, which  
35 is supplied with pump energy by a pump energy source 32.  
The signal varying device 12 can be embodied as a  
distributed device in which the Raman gain transmission  
50 fiber 30 includes a substantial portion or all of the

5 optical transmission fiber 28 extending between nodes 14,  
such as a optical transmitter 16 and optical receiver 18,  
and/or devices 12. The signal varying device 12 can also  
10 5 be embodied as a lumped, or concentrated, device that is  
placed in the optical transmission fiber 28 at discrete  
locations between the optical nodes 14.

One skilled in the art will appreciate that  
concentrated devices 12 of the present invention can be  
15 produced in a manner analogous to prior art EDFA  
construction. For example, the concentrated devices 12 are  
20 constructed by winding optical fiber of sufficient length  
to provide the desired signal variation range, such as  
amplification, within a discrete device around a spool to  
control the size of the devices 12.

15 As shown in Fig. 3, a controller 34 can be included in  
the device 12 and configured to dynamically control the  
pump energy supplied via one or more of the pump  
25 wavelengths. Dynamic control of the pump energy allows for  
the performance of the device 12 to be varied as signal  
transmission changes occur, either upstream and/or  
30 downstream of the device 12. Thus, the dynamic control  
provides the ability to continually or periodically modify  
the operation of the devices 12 in response to  
communication system/environmental variations that  
35 inevitably occur with time. The devices 12 allow the  
signal varying profiles to be controlled both on-line or  
off-line, such as during installation, maintenance,  
grooming, etc.

40 In one aspect of the invention, the pump source 32 is  
30 configured to combine arbitrarily spaced pump wavelengths  
as shown in Fig. 3. Grating stabilized lasers 32<sub>m</sub> can be  
used to provide pump wavelengths that are combined in pairs  
using fused DWDM couplers 36. The paired pump wavelengths  
45 can be further combined with arbitrarily spaced pump  
wavelengths using a dichroic filter 38. Alternatively,  
35 polarization combiners 39 can be used to combine two pump  
wavelengths having orthogonal polarizations, which can be  
50 further combined with other wavelengths using the dichroic

5 filter 38. The use of polarization combiners 39 provides additional control over the pump energy polarization and the resulting pump energy conversion in the Raman amplifiers.

10 5 The combination of fused couplers 36, dichroic filter 38, and polarization combiners 39 in the present invention provides increased flexibility in wavelength combining and amplifier gain profile control. It will be appreciated that additional wavelengths can be added by cascading the lasers and wavelength combining arrangements.

15 10 The pump energy is introduced into the optical transmission fiber 28 using combiners 26, such as wavelength division multiplexers. Other wavelength selective or non-selective couplers, circulator, reflectors, and other combining device known in the art can be used to introduce the pump energy.

20 15 In the present invention, the Raman gain optical fiber 30 can be selected to facilitate Raman scattering/gain over a range of transmission signal wavelengths that include optical signal wavelengths  $\lambda_{s1}$ - $\lambda_{sn}$ , when the fiber 30 is stimulated using pump energy provided in a pump wavelength range. Most silica-based fiber, including most transmission fibers, facilitate Raman gain in a wide range of wavelengths; thus, additional fiber 30 included in the device 12 is generally selected to complement any existing fiber as will be further discussed. With proper pump wavelength selection, it is expected that Raman gain can be provided across the optical fiber transparent transmission wavelength range, which currently ranges from approximately 25 30 1240 to 1650 nm for silica based fiber.

35 40 For example, in the transmission signal wavelength range of 1520 nm to 1620 nm, the corresponding pump wavelength range is approximately 1420 nm to 1520 nm. Likewise, in the transmission signal wavelength range of 45 35 1250 nm to 1350 nm, the corresponding pump wavelength range is 1150 nm to 1250 nm. Thus, more than one signal wavelength range can be transmitted in the optical system 50 10. The signal wavelength ranges can be interleaved with



5 the pump wavelengths to provide a multiple signal  
wavelength range system as stated above. It is also  
expected that changes in the optical fiber transmission  
signal wavelength range can be accommodated by the present  
10 invention by proper selection of pump wavelengths.

Devices 12 having different signal variation profiles  
and employing different pump wavelengths can be used in  
combination within the system 10. The optical fiber 30  
15 used in the signal varying device 12 can be the same as the  
transmission fiber 28 in the system 10 or another type of  
optical fiber having different properties. The length and  
type of fiber deployed in the system 10 can be tailored to  
20 provide flexibility in the operation of the system.

For example, the extent of Raman scattering in the  
15 fiber is partly dependent upon the size of the optical  
fiber core. In addition, the loss in the fiber increases  
as the size of the core decreases. Thus, a concentrated,  
25 or lumped, high gain/loss signal varying device can be  
provided using a small core fiber. Also, some fiber core  
20 composition, such as cores with increased germania  
concentrations, can provide for wider Raman gain variation  
profiles. In addition, fibers can be chosen to impart  
30 other characteristics, i.e., chromatic dispersion, to the  
optical signals that may differ from those of the  
25 transmission fiber.

35 In at least one embodiment, a small core dispersion  
compensating fiber ("DCF"), such as is manufactured by  
Lucent Technologies or Sumitomo Electric Company, is used  
as the Raman gain fiber in a concentrated signal varying  
40 device 12. The DCF concentrated device 12 provides for a  
greater range over which the signal varying device can be  
used as an attenuator, an amplifier, or a transparent link,  
because of the high attenuation/high gain properties of the  
45 DCF. Conversely, standard single mode transmission fiber  
35 can used to provide a distributed lower gain signal varying  
device 12 to provide control over a smaller intensity  
variation (gain/loss) range.

5 Non-linear intensity profiles can be also provided  
using the device 12. The device 12 can include inherently  
nonlinear or nonlinearly operated components, such as one  
or more doped fiber amplifiers, etc., to produce a net  
10 5 linear intensity profiles or different non-linear profiles.  
For example, an erbium doped fiber 40 can be included in  
the transmission fiber and optically pumped using  
wavelengths,  $\lambda_{pe1} - \lambda_{pe1}$ , supplied by one or more erbium pump  
15 sources 42<sub>1</sub>. The erbium doped fiber 40 can be embodied as a  
10 distributed or concentrated portion in combination with the  
Raman section of the signal varying device to provide a  
multiple stage signal varying device 12, as shown in Figs.  
20 4 and 5. It will be appreciated that various EDFA  
configurations, such as those discussed in the Background,  
15 can be used in embodiments incorporating erbium doped  
fiber.

25 Devices 12 having multiple concentrated/lumped Raman  
stages can be introduced into the transmission fiber 28 to  
further tailor the signal varying profile. For example, a  
20 first concentrated Raman fiber stage 12<sub>1</sub> can employ a small  
core fiber, such as DCF, to provide for efficient Raman  
30 amplification of the signal wavelengths. A second  
concentrated Raman fiber stage 12<sub>2</sub> can employ a larger core  
fiber to provide additional signal amplification, while  
35 lessening the extent of non-linear interactions compared to  
smaller core fibers. The second concentrated Raman stage  
can also employ fiber having low loss in the 1420-1510 nm  
range, such as AllWave fiber sold by Lucent Technologies.  
40 The use of low loss fiber provides increased pumping  
30 efficiency, so that both stages can be more effectively  
pumped using a common Raman pump source. Alternatively,  
the pump source 32 can be configured to provide different  
45 Raman pump wavelengths to pump the first and second stages.

50 In addition, the first and second Raman stages can use  
35 fibers that have different chromatic dispersion  
characteristics. The change in fiber dispersion  
characteristics will tend to reduce the extent of non-

5 linear interaction that occurs between the highly amplified signal wavelengths.

Other optical components including gain profile  
varying components can be included in the devices 12. As  
10 5 shown in Fig. 5(b), wavelength selective reflectors 44,  
such as Bragg gratings, can be included to reflect excess  
pump energy back into optical fiber 30 or erbium sections  
40. Gain flattening filters 46 can also be included to  
15 impart a fixed or variable gain profile on the optical  
10 signal. Optical isolators 48 are provided to eliminate  
discrete reflections from the gain flattening filter 46.  
Also, the device 12 can be provisioned to allow the local  
20 controller 34 to transmit and receive supervisory and/or  
monitoring, i.e., service, information from a network  
15 manager 50 via optical wavelength  $\lambda_{sc}$  as shown in Fig. 5(b).

Also, it will be further appreciated that the devices  
25 12 can be divided into multiple stages, i.e., pre- and  
post-amplifier stages. Signal processing, such as  
adding/dropping or switching channels, etc., and/or  
20 controlling accumulated noise and/or gain profile  
30 variations can be performed between the stages as is known  
in the art.

The pump energy source 32 provides pump energy to the  
fiber 30 in a plurality of pump wavelengths,  $\lambda_{p1}-\lambda_{pm}$ , within  
35 25 the pump wavelength range. The pump energy can be supplied  
to the fiber 30 counter-directionally and/or  
codirectionally with the optical signal wavelengths  $\lambda_{s1}-\lambda_{sn}$   
being transmitted in the system 10. Counter-propagating  
40 the first Stokes order Raman wavelengths relative to the  
30 signal wavelengths generally lessens signal degradation due  
to interference, i.e., cross-talk, between the pump energy  
and the optical signal. Also, the pump energy supplied via  
45 each pump wavelength can be controlled to compensate for  
any self-pumping that might occur between the pump  
35 wavelengths. It is also desirable to select pump  
wavelengths so that the pump energy supplied by each pump

5 wavelength is relatively uniform, i.e., within  $\pm 10\%$  of the average pump energy per pump wavelength.

10 In addition, the pump source 32 can supply the pump energy at one or more points along the fiber 30 as shown in Fig. 5(a). In at least one embodiment, pump energy is separately supplied to each stage of the device 12 from a point on the fiber 30 and counter-directionally to the optical signals being transmitted.

15 The pump source 32 can be any source of pump energy that is sufficient to induce Raman gain in the transmission wavelength ranges of the system 10. Typically, the pump source 32 will include one or more pump lasers of the type known in the art, and may also include other coherent and incoherent broad and narrow band sources. The number of  
20 lasers and other pump energy sources used in the pump source 32<sub>M</sub> depends upon the transmission wavelength ranges over which the signal varying device 12 will be operated.

25 The pump wavelengths used in erbium fiber stages of the devices 12 can be selected to provide pump energy in the 980 nm range for only erbium gain or in the 1480 nm range for both Raman and erbium gain. One will appreciate that pump wavelengths in the 980 nm range may be used to provide Raman gain by pumping successive Stokes orders in the device 12, as discussed within.

30 The pump sources 32 may be locally or remotely located from the signal varying device, such as shown in Figs 6 and 7. The signal varying devices 12 can be configured such that the residual pump energy from a distributed Raman amplifier is supplied to pump one or more concentrated or distributed Raman and/or doped fiber signal varying devices 12. For example, sections of the transmission fiber are replaced with corresponding sections of doped fiber and/or different types fiber to provide distributed signal varying devices 12. In these configurations, residual pump energy  
35 from the distributed Raman amplifier can be used to pump and control the signal variation profiles of the remotely distributed devices 12.

5 Fig. 8 shows a plot of the signal variation profiles  
using the transmission fiber 28 to form a distributed Raman  
amplifier, which provides pump energy to a remotely located  
section of erbium fiber 40 spliced into the transmission  
10 5 fiber 28. Curve A shows the remote erbium gain profile.  
Curves B and C show the target and achieved Raman gain  
profile. Curve D shows the overall gain profile for the  
erbium and the Raman gain section. As can be seen, the  
15 pump wavelengths and energy provided by the pump source 32  
can be selected to provide complementary non-linear gain  
10 profiles in the transmission fiber 28 and the erbium fiber  
40. The resulting overall profile is substantially  
20 uniform. As would be expected the overall profile can be  
varied to provide other profiles as may be desired. For  
15 example, the gain profile can be tilted to offset higher  
bending losses at longer wavelengths.

25 As shown in Fig. 6, a portion of the optical signal,  
including the signal wavelengths, can be tapped off the  
transmission fiber 28 for analysis. Characteristics of the  
20 signal wavelengths can be determined using an analyzer 43,  
such as an optical spectrum analyzer and a tunable receiver  
30 18 and bit error rate test device. The signal  
characteristics can be used by the controller 34 to vary pump  
energy supplied by pump sources 32<sub>1</sub> - 32<sub>n</sub> to maintain a  
25 desired profile/system performance. The variation in pump  
35 energy will change the overall signal varying profile by  
varying profiles of both the remote signal varying device  
12 and the distributed Raman amplifier supplying the remote  
devices 12.

40 30 In addition, one or more wavelength selective  
reflectors 44 can be disposed proximate to the remote  
signal varying device 12. Thus, excess pump energy can be  
reflected to provide additional gain in the distributed  
45 Raman section and/or the remote signal varying devices  
35 depending upon the position of the reflectors 44.

As further shown in Fig. 7, additional gain and gain  
profile control in Raman amplifier stages and remotely  
50 pumped doped fiber stages can be produced by including one

5 or more pumps at higher Stokes order Raman wavelengths to  
amplify lower Stokes order Raman pump wavelengths. In  
Raman amplifiers, the pump energy attenuates with distance  
traveled in the fiber reaching a level at which very little

10 5 Raman amplification of the signal wavelengths occurs.

However, pump energy at higher Stokes order Raman  
wavelengths (1320-1420 nm, etc.) can be introduced into the  
fiber to amplify the lower Stokes order Raman wavelengths  
15 (1420-1520 nm, etc.), which, in turn, will amplify the  
10 signal wavelengths (1520-1620 nm, etc.). If co-propagating  
Raman wavelengths are staggered by at least every other  
Raman wavelength and adjacent Stokes orders are counter-  
propagated, cross-talk between the wavelengths should not  
20 greatly affect the signal wavelength.

15 An exemplary Raman wavelength pump arrangement is  
shown in Fig. 7. Pump lasers 32<sub>n</sub> supply Raman wavelengths  
25 in the Stokes orders (2i-1) counter-propagating to the  
signal wavelength range and Raman wavelengths in the Stokes  
orders 2i co-propagating with the signal wavelengths for  
20 values of i from 1 to an arbitrary value. For a signal  
wavelength in the 1520 to 1620 nm range, the first and  
30 second Raman wavelength ranges would be 1420-1520 nm and  
1320-1420nm, respectively, which corresponds to i=1.

In some embodiments, information can be transmitted on  
35 a wavelength in one direction, while providing pump energy  
in the same wavelength in the other direction. For  
example, in newer fibers that have lower loss in the 1400  
nm range, information could be transmitted in one direction  
40 at 1450 nm and pump energy supplied for Raman gain in the  
30 1550 range in the other direction. When allocating the  
same wavelength for use in both directions, consideration  
must be given to potential signal degradation due to  
Rayleigh back-scattering.

45 The pump wavelengths in the various Stokes' orders are  
35 selected such that the combined Raman gain resulting from  
the pump energy supplied by each pump wavelength produces a  
desired Raman gain signal variation profile in the signal  
50 transmission wavelength ranges. The Raman gain signal

5 variation profile can be uniform or nonuniform, linear or  
nonlinear depending upon a particular application of the  
device 12. In wide band optical systems, i.e., signal  
wavelength range > 30 nm, the signal varying profile of the  
10 5 devices 12 can be used to compensate for loss variation of  
the signal wavelengths, such as bending loss variations,  
etc.

15 The number of pump wavelengths and the wavelength  
spacing used in the device 12 can be varied to provide  
10 Raman gain over a range of wavelengths. The pump  
wavelengths,  $\lambda_{p1}$ - $\lambda_{pm}$ , are generally selected to provide  
sufficient overlap of the Raman gain profiles to provide  
20 control over the Raman gain at one or more wavelengths in  
the transmission signal wavelength range.

15 In addition, the pump energy supplied by at least one  
of the pump wavelengths can be controllably varied to  
25 change the signal variation profile over the wavelength  
range in the optical fiber. Also, the total pump energy  
supplied via all the pump wavelengths can be held constant  
20 or varied accordingly, while varying the pump energy  
provided by the individual pump wavelengths. One skilled  
30 in the art will appreciate that the choice of wavelength  
can be made to tailor the signal varying characteristics of  
the device 12 to a particular system configuration.

35 25 Typically, the pump wavelengths,  $\lambda_{p1}$  -  $\lambda_{pm}$ , are selected  
so that overall signal variation profile will be  
substantially uniform over the range of wavelengths. One  
skilled in the art will appreciate that decreasing the  
40 spacing intervals of the pump wavelengths can provide  
30 increased control over the uniformity of the intensity  
profile. For example, pump energy could be supplied in  
narrow spectral ranges to maximize the gain in the signal  
45 wavelengths will minimizing the gain of the noise  
wavelength between the signals. However, the increased  
35 uniformity and control must be balanced with the increased  
cost of using additional wavelengths in the device 12 and  
allowable total power requirements. Conversely, a  
50

5 broadband optical source can be employed to provide pump energy over a broad spectral range of wavelengths, thereby minimizing the required number of pumps.

10 When a plurality of pump wavelengths are used, it is generally necessary to employ cascaded combining arrangement. As the number of cascaded combining arrangements is increased or the range of wavelengths is varied, it may become necessary to employ other arrangements to reduce the loss associated with combining 15 the pump energy. Such alternatives can include prism 52 and lens 54 combiners or circulator 56/grating 44 multiplexers, such as shown in Figs. 9 and 10. Figs. 9(a&b) show the use of a single prism 52 to combine a plurality of pump wavelengths. The plurality of pump 20 wavelengths are focused using either one or more lenses 54 at appropriate angles into the prism 52, which combines the plurality of pump wavelengths into a single beam that is output into optical fiber 30 in the device 12 or the transmission fiber 28. The difference in the angles of 25 incidence is determined based on the refractive indices of the prism for each wavelength.

30 The difference in the refractive indices for each wavelength can be used to calculate the angle of incidence on the prism for each wavelength. The index of refraction in the prism is calculated as:

$$n(\lambda) = (A + B\lambda^2/(\lambda^2 - C) + D\lambda^2/(\lambda^2 - E))^{1/2} \text{ and}$$

$$\theta(\lambda) \text{ (radians)} = \text{asin}(n(\lambda) * \sin(\alpha)),$$

40 where  $\alpha = 22\pi/180$ ,  $\theta$  is the refraction angle,  $\lambda$  is the pump wavelength, and A- E are prism constants.

30 For example, a AgGaSe<sub>2</sub> prism (A-E= 3.9362, 2.9113, 0.1507, 1.7954, 1600) can be used to combine two pump wavelengths at 1480 and 1470, respectively. The pump wavelengths are transmitted into the prism at angles which 45 differ by approximately 0.136 degrees to produce a combined signal exiting the prism 52. One skilled in the art will appreciate that combining prisms 52 may also be cascaded 50



5 similar to couplers and other multiplexing devices to  
combine additional pump sources.

Circulator 56 and grating 44, shown in Fig. 10, are  
typically more expensive than coupler arrangements.

10 5 However, as the number of pump sources 32<sub>a</sub> is increased, the  
circulator/grating devices can reduce the loss associated  
with pump combining. The circulators 56 can be provided  
with a plurality of ports and corresponding gratings to  
15 combine the pump wavelengths. One or more circulators 50  
20 can also be cascaded to provide for more efficient  
combining of the pump wavelengths.

The configuration shown in Fig. 3 was used to further  
20 demonstrate the advantages of the present invention. In  
one example, four pump wavelengths, 1450, 1460, 1485, and  
15 1495 nm, were combined using two 10 nm DWDM couplers and a  
dichroic filter, which allows the unevenly spaced  
25 wavelengths to be effectively combined. The combined pump  
wavelengths were supplied to DCF to provide Raman gain in  
the transmission signal wavelength range of 1555 to 1585  
20 nm.

30 As shown in Fig. 11(a), substantially flat Raman gain  
signal variation profiles ( $\pm 0.16$  dB) can be produced over  
a 30 nm range for gains ranging from 1 to 8 dB. In  
addition, the relative power of the pump wavelengths  
35 25 supplied to the device 12 can be varied to produce non-  
linear profiles that generally increase or decrease across  
the signal wavelength range, as shown in Fig. 11(b).

Experimental gain profiles were determined for a  
40 number of additional pump wavelengths. Based on the  
30 experimental results, Raman signal varying device  
simulations were performed over 35 nm wide (1530-1565 nm)  
and 100 nm wide (1530-1630 nm) signal wavelength ranges.  
45 The predicted performance of  $\pm 0.12$  dB and  $\pm 0.342$  dB over  
the 35 nm and 100 nm wavelength ranges, as shown in Figs.  
35 12 (curve a) and 13, respectively, indicates that the  
signal varying devices of the present invention can be used  
50 over a wide range of wavelengths to accommodate numerous

5 channels. Fig. 12 (curves b and c) also shows examples of  
linear and non-linear profiles that can be produced by  
varying the relative power at the various pump wavelengths.  
It is also expected that the number of pumps and the pump  
10 5 wavelength spacing can be further varied to provide a range  
of signal variation profiles over wide and narrow  
wavelength ranges.

15 The signal varying devices 12 of the present invention  
can be operated in one, two, or three of the signal varying  
10 modes, amplification, attenuation, and lossless. By  
controlling the pump power, one signal varying device can  
be continuously transitioned between the three modes of  
20 operation. In addition, the intensity gain/loss profile  
can be adjusted in each signal varying device 12 to  
15 dynamically control the characteristics of the optical  
signals exiting the signal varying device 12. It is also  
25 possible to operate the signal varying device 12 in more  
than one mode at the same time. For example, the signal  
varying device 12 can be operated as an amplifier over part  
20 of the signal wavelength range and as an attenuator and/or  
a lossless link over the remaining part of the signal  
30 wavelength range. The multiple mode operation of the  
signal varying device 12 can be used to compensate for  
optical signals that enter the signal varying device 12  
25 with a non-linear intensity profile.

35 Different signal varying devices 12 can be included in  
the system 10 that are operated with different pump  
wavelengths and powers to provide a cumulative signal  
variation profiles differing from the signal variation  
40 30 profiles of each device 12. For example, the pump  
wavelengths used in different devices 12 can be varied to  
compensate for individual device signal variation profile  
nonuniformities and provide a cumulative signal variation  
45 profile that is substantially more uniform than the  
35 individual device profiles.

50 Devices 12 of the present invention provide  
flexibility in the control of the optical system 10,  
because the power level, i.e. amplification and/or

5           attenuation level, can be varied without changing the  
signal varying profile. Control of the individual devices  
can be performed as is known in the art. Alternatively,  
the devices 12 along the transmission fiber 28 can be  
10       5   controlled as one or more groups to provide additional  
stability in the system 10. An example of such an optical  
control systems is disclosed in commonly assigned U.S.  
Patent Application Serial No. 09/119,561, which is  
15       incorporated herein by reference.

10           Unlike prior art systems, the present invention does  
not require that a number of non-linear devices be  
coordinated and controlled to provide linear intensity  
20       variation (gain/loss) profiles. Instead, the present  
invention provides an optical system incorporating a  
15       continuous transition signal varying device that provides  
increased control over the characteristics of optical  
signals being transmitted in the system.

25           Those of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate  
that numerous modifications and variations that can be made  
20       to specific aspects of the present invention without  
departing from the scope of the present invention. It is  
30       intended that the foregoing specification and the following  
claims cover such modifications and variations.

## Claims

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## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An optical transmission system comprising:

a plurality of optical processing nodes configured to optically communicate via optical signals in a signal wavelength range; and,

a plurality of signal varying devices positioned to vary an optical signal passing between said processing nodes, wherein said plurality of signal varying devices includes

a first signal varying device at a first location including optical fiber provided with optical energy in a first set of pump wavelengths from a first pump source to produce Raman gain having a first signal variation profile in the optical signals over the signal wavelength range, and

a second signal varying device at a second location remote from said first location and configured to provide a second signal variation profile over the signal wavelength range, wherein said first and second signal variation profiles provide for a cumulative signal variation profile over the signal wavelength range that differs from either of the first and second signal variation profiles.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein said first pump source is configured to vary at least one of the pump energy carried by at least one of said pump wavelengths and at least one of the pump wavelengths to control at least the first signal variation profile.

3. The system of claim 1 wherein said first pump source includes pump wavelengths selected to provide a substantially uniform signal variation profile over the signal wavelength range.

5           4. The system of claim 1 wherein said second signal  
varying device includes at least one doped optical fiber  
configured to optically amplify the optical signals; and,  
said first pump source is further configured to supply  
10           5 pump energy to optically amplify optical signals in said  
doped fiber.

15           5. The system in claim 4 wherein said first pump  
source includes pump wavelengths selected to provide an  
adjustable overall gain profile over the signal wavelength  
10           range.

20           6. The system in claim 4 wherein said optical fiber  
includes at least a portion of transmission fiber in said  
optical transmission system.

25           7. The system in claim 4 wherein said first pump  
source includes pump wavelengths selected to provide a  
substantially uniform overall gain profile over the signal  
wavelength range.

30           8. The system in claim 4 wherein said first pump  
source includes pump wavelengths selected to provide  
20           different Raman and doped fiber gain profiles over the at  
least one signal wavelength range.

35           9. The system of claim 4 wherein said doped fiber  
includes at least one erbium doped fiber.

40           10. The system of claim 9 wherein said first pump  
source is configured to control the pump wavelength to  
provide a Raman gain profile that substantially compensates  
for gain non-uniformities introduced by said at least one  
erbium doped fiber.

45           11. The system of claim 4 further comprising at least  
30           one wavelength selective reflector positioned to reflect a  
portion of the pump energy from at least one pump  
wavelength back toward said first pump source.

5           12. The system of claim 11 wherein said at least one wavelength selective reflectors includes at least one fiber Bragg grating positioned to reflect the portion of the at least one pump wavelength before reaching said doped fiber.

10           13. The system of claim 10 wherein said first pump source is configured to supply pump energy in at least one wavelength that is not absorbed by said doped fiber and to provide Raman gain in said optical fiber.

15           14. The system of claim 1 wherein said first pump source is remotely located from said optical fiber and delivers the pump energy to said optical fiber via a separate pump path.

20           15. The system of claim 1 wherein said optical fiber includes first and second Raman fiber, said first Raman fiber having different Raman gain characteristics than said second Raman fiber; and,

25               said first pump source is configured to provide pump energy in pump wavelengths to produce Raman gain in said first and second Raman fibers.

30           16. The system of claim 1 wherein said first Raman fiber includes optical fibers having a smaller core than said second Raman fiber.

35           17. The system of claim 16 wherein said first pump source is configured to provide a common source of pump energy to said first and second Raman fibers.

40           18. The system of claim 17 wherein said second Raman fiber provides for low loss in the 1420 to 1510 nm range and pump energy is transmitted through said second Raman fiber to said first Raman fiber.

45           19. The system of claim 16 wherein said first pump source is configured to provide different Raman pump wavelengths to said first Raman fiber and said second Raman fiber.

5           20. The system of claim 1 wherein said second signal  
varying device includes a second pump source configured to  
provide pump energy in at least a second set of Raman  
wavelengths to provide Raman gain in the first set of Raman  
10           5 wavelengths in said optical fiber.

          21. The system of claim 20 wherein said second set of  
Raman wavelengths is counter-propagated in said optical  
15           fiber relative to the first set of Raman wavelengths.

          22. The system of claim 20 wherein said first pump  
10           source includes a third set of Raman wavelengths to provide  
Raman gain to the second set of Raman wavelengths.

          23. The system of claim 1 wherein a portion of said  
optical fiber provides for distributed Raman gain and  
another portion of said optical fiber provides for  
15           25 concentrated Raman gain.

          24. The system of claim 23 further comprising a gain  
flattening filter positioned to impart a signal variation  
profile over at least a portion of at least one signal  
30           wavelength range.

          25. The system of claim 1 wherein said pump  
wavelengths are selected to provide a cumulative signal  
variation profile over the signal wavelength range having a  
35           variation of  $\leq \pm 1$  dB.

          26. The system of claim 1 wherein said device is  
25           operable in at least one signal varying mode, said mode  
selected from the group consisting of amplification,  
attenuation, and lossless transmission.



5           27. The system of claim 1 wherein said optical fiber  
is suitable for transmitting a plurality of signal  
wavelength ranges; and,

10           said first pump source is configured to provide a  
5 plurality of pump wavelength interleaved with the plurality  
of signal wavelength ranges and having sufficient pump  
energy to produce Raman gain in a plurality of signal  
varying profiles in the plurality of signal wavelength  
15 ranges.

10           28. The system of claim 1 wherein said optical fiber  
is configured to produce Raman gain in a signal wavelength  
range and provide concentrated amplification, attenuation,  
20 and lossless transmission in said optical fiber; and,

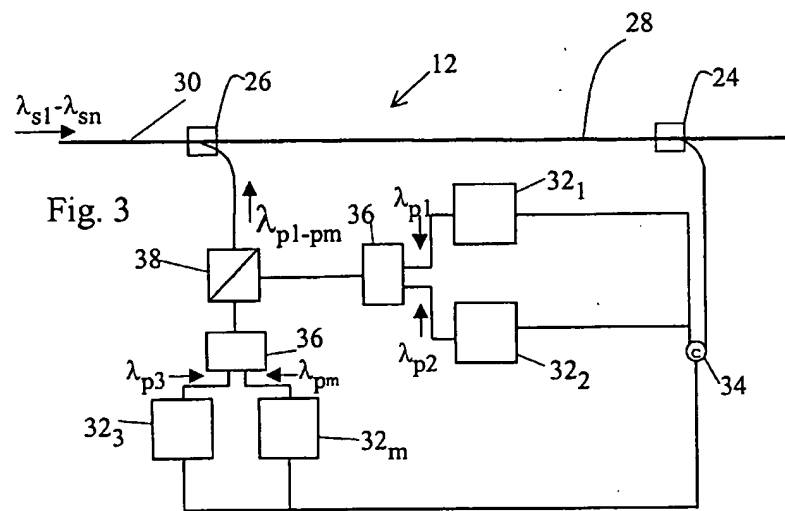
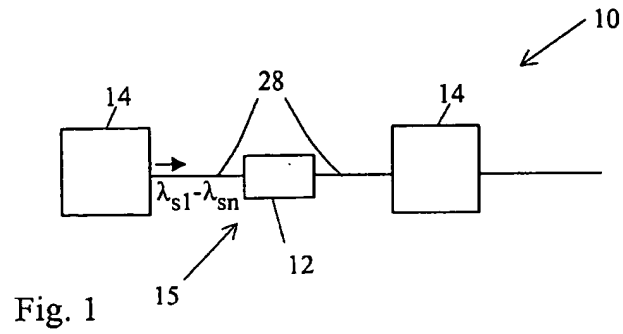
15           said first pump source is configured to provide pump  
energy to said optical fiber in a plurality of pump  
wavelengths having sufficient pump energy to produce Raman  
25 gain and a signal variation profile in the signal  
wavelength range and said pump source is further configured  
to control the pump energy in at least one of said pump  
20 wavelengths to vary the signal variation profile and  
30 provide amplification, attenuation, and lossless  
transmission in said optical fiber over the signal  
wavelength range.

5           29. A method of controlling signal variation of  
optical signals in an optical transmission system  
comprising:

10           providing a first signal varying device including an  
5 optical fiber provide with pump energy in a plurality of  
pump wavelengths from a first pump source and configured to  
produce Raman gain having a first signal variation profile  
in optical signals over the signal wavelength range;

15           providing a second signal varying device at a second  
10 location remote from said first location and configured to  
provide a second signal variation profile over the signal  
wavelength range, wherein said first and second signal  
variation profiles provide for a cumulative signal  
20 variation profile over the signal wavelength range that  
15 differs from either of the first and second signal  
variation profiles; and,

25           controlling the pump energy produced by at least one  
of said pump wavelengths to vary at least the first signal  
variation profile over the signal wavelength range.



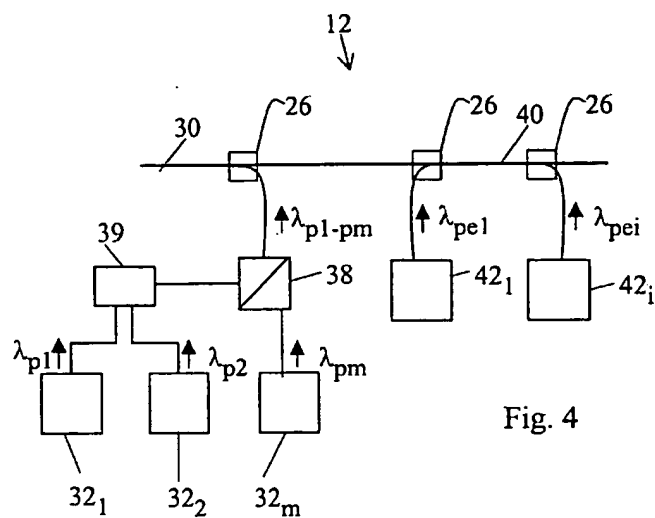


Fig. 4

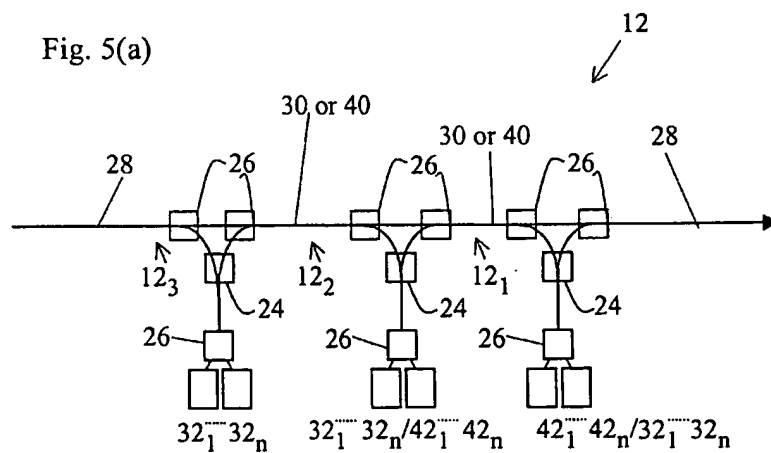
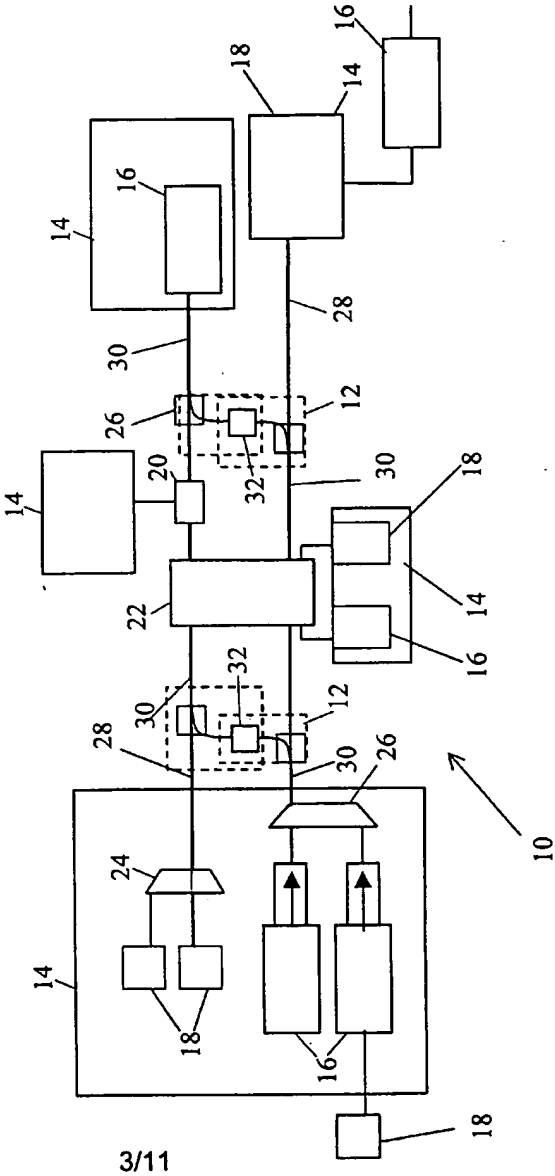


Fig. 5(a)

Fig. 2



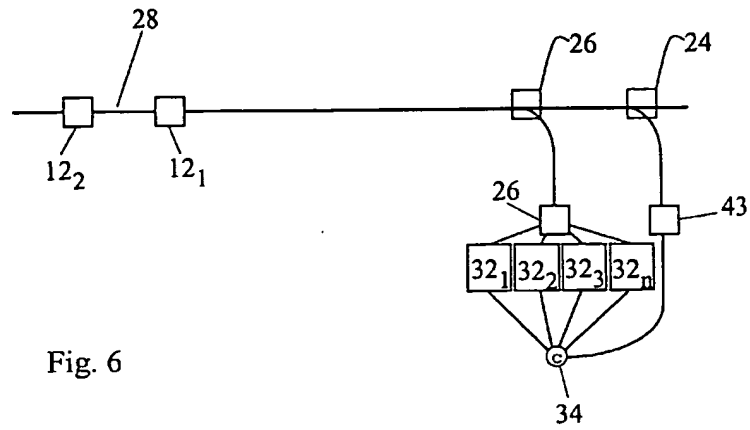


Fig. 6

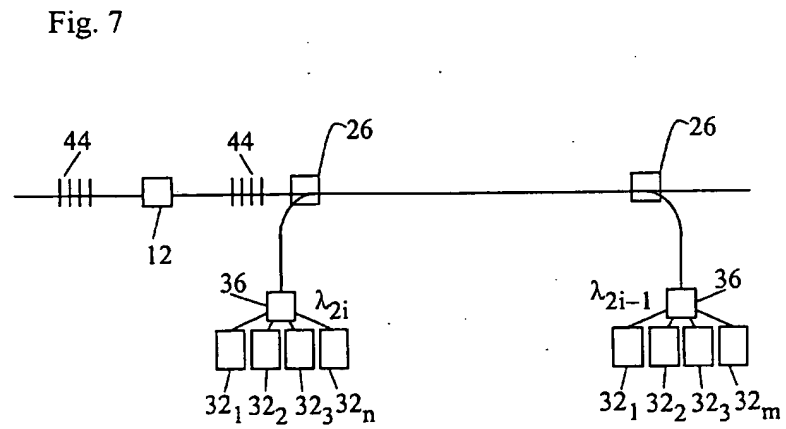


Fig. 7

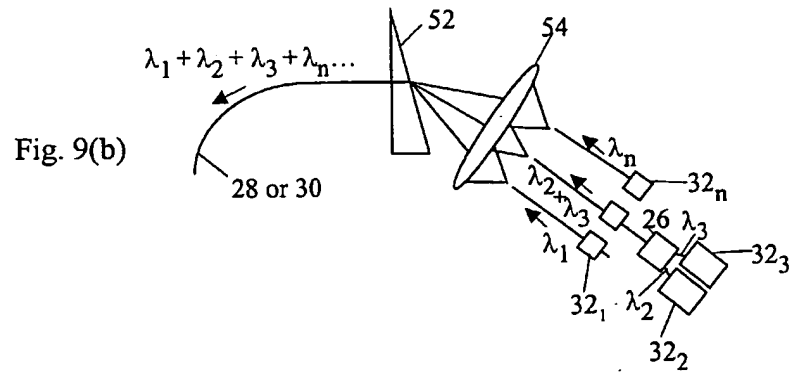
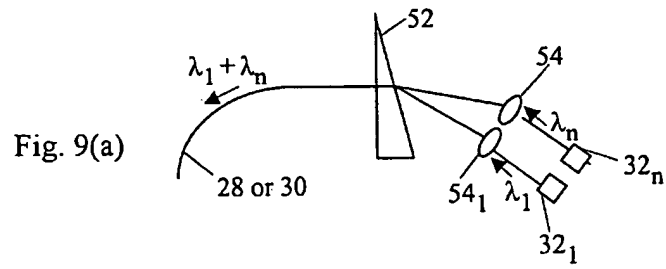


Fig. 8

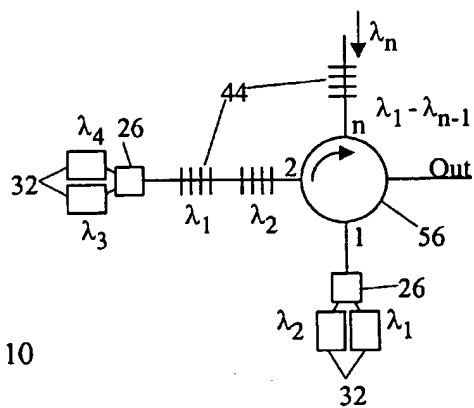
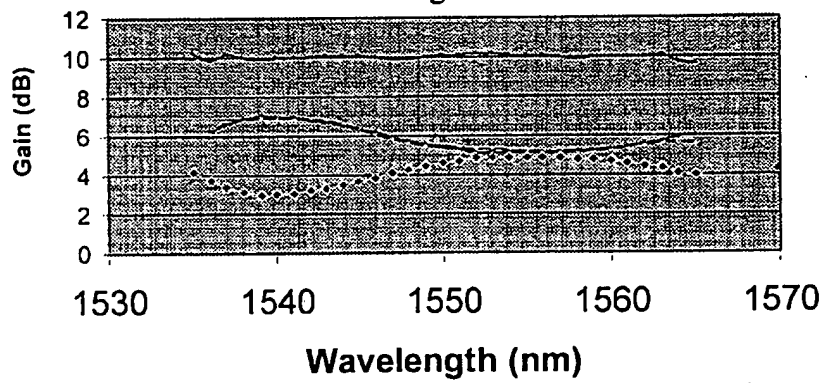


Fig. 10



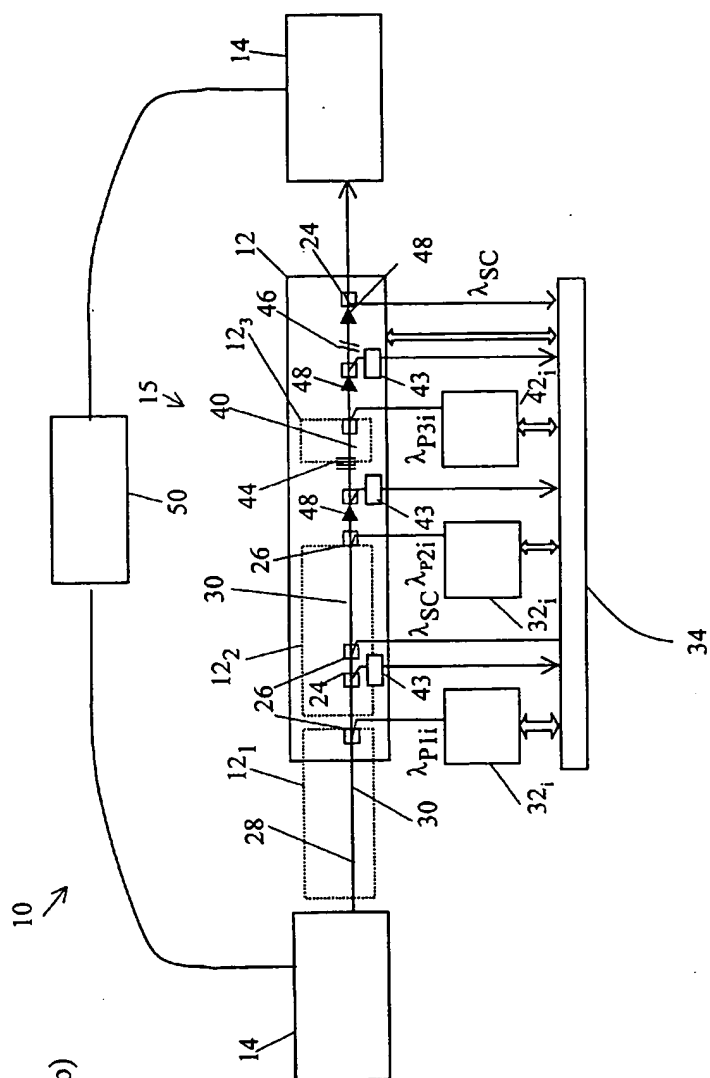


Fig. 5(b)

Fig. 11(a)

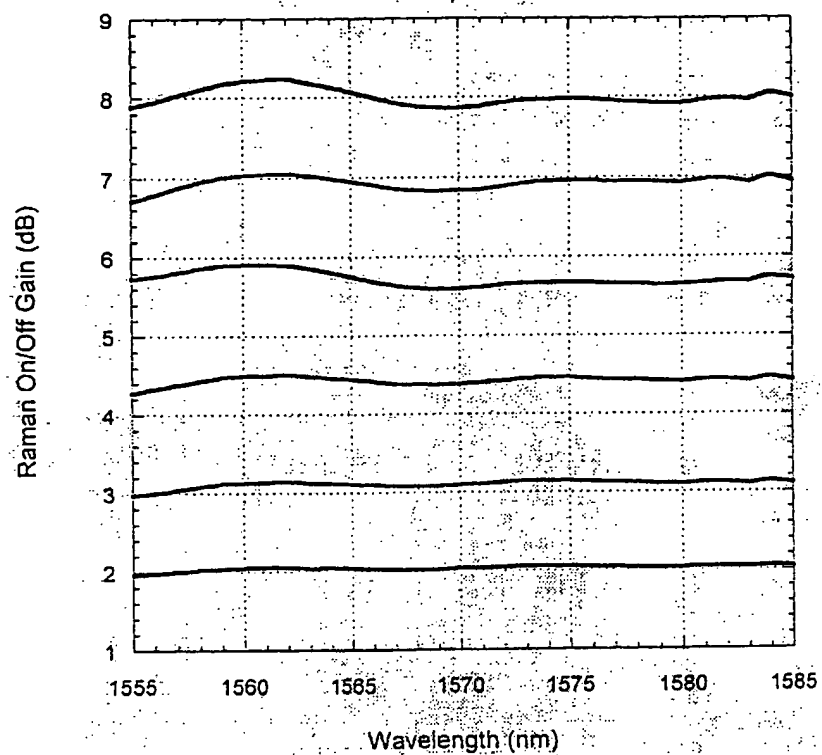


Fig. 11(b)

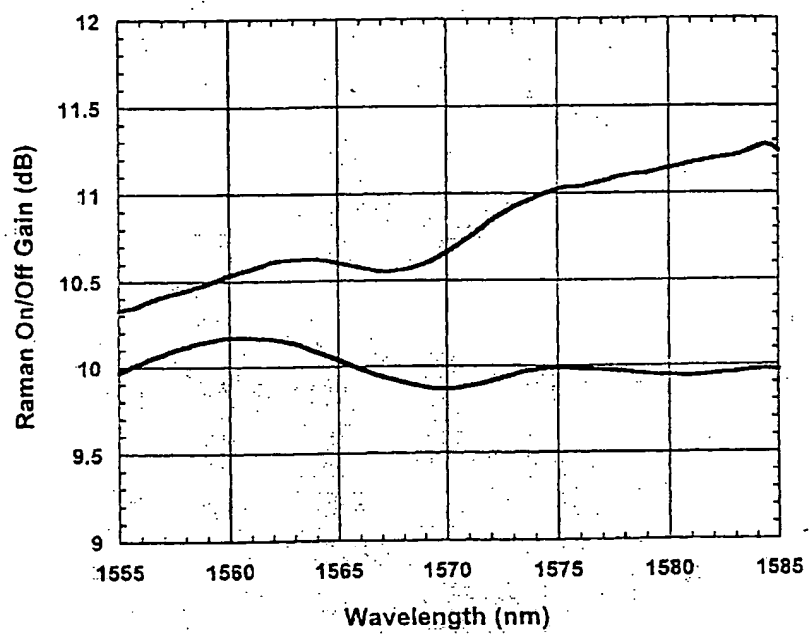


Fig. 12

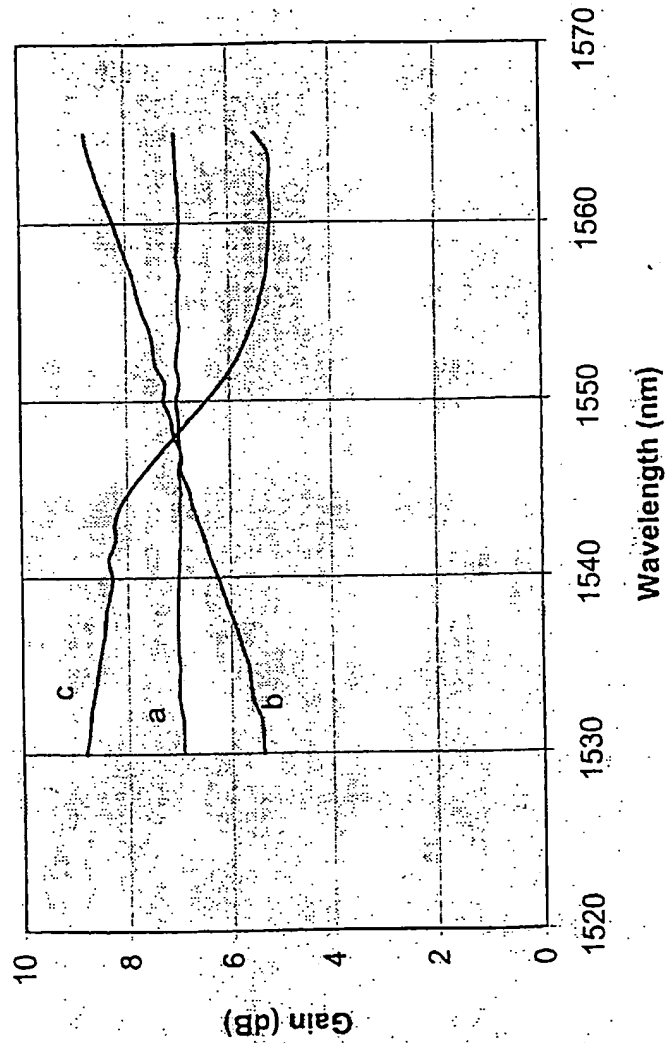


Fig. 13

